

## BIG SANDY NEWS

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam

Volume XXXVII, Number 33.

LOUISA, LAWRENCE COUNTY, KENTUCKY, APRIL 21, 1922.

M. F. CONLEY and E. K. SPENCER, Publishers

LIGHTNING KILLS  
BOY NEAR LOUISALast Friday's Storm Fatal  
to Gilmer Thompson's  
Son.

A boy thirteen years old, son of Gilmer Thompson, was killed by lightning Friday on Mill creek, in Wayne county, W. Va., about five miles from Louisa.

He was sitting on the porch at home during the severe storm that swept over this section that day, when a vivid flash of lightning snapped the thread of life. Death was instantaneous.

The body was very perceptibly burned, the course of the current being easy to trace. No one was near the boy when the tragedy occurred.

The body was taken in charge by the Snyder undertaking establishment of Louisa and transported several miles back in Wayne county to the former home place of Mr. Thompson, where the interment took place.

John M. Berry,  
Former Louisa Citizen,  
Dies in Huntington

John M. Berry, 81, a veteran of the Union army, died at 10:20 o'clock on Sunday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. W. Bloss, 1053 Tenth avenue, Huntington, after an illness of three weeks.

Mr. Berry was born in Floyd county, Ky., January 29, 1841. He was married in 1863 to Miss Lavinia Graham, of this county. His early married life was spent in Louisa. He moved to Huntington about thirty years ago and for a long time was connected with the Gwinning mill. Later he was with the Keister Milling Co.

Since the death of his wife, eight years ago, he had made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Bloss.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Bloss residence, the Rev. D. L. Ash officiating. Mr. Berry was a member of the First M. E. Church.

Death of Rev. Wren  
Former Louisa Pastor

Rev. C. E. Wren, for many years pastor of the Institutional Baptist church died at his apartment on Third avenue. He suffered a paralytic seizure following which he never regained consciousness. His remains were removed to the Steele Funeral Home where the last rites were held.

The Rev. Mr. Wren played an interesting and unusual part in the history of Huntington. Twenty years or more ago he conceived the idea of establishing an institutional church in Huntington. At that time there were no churches here with the institutional features which have since become part of the work of almost every important congregation.

Mr. Wren secured property at the corner of Fourth avenue and Fifth street and with the assistance of liberal Huntingtonians, began an ambitious building project. The solid foundations and partially erected walls of a structure of massive stone stand there yet as a memorial to his zeal. A year ago failing health made it certain that he could never complete his project, and, anxious that his work should serve a lasting and useful purpose, he deeded the Institutional church property to the Young Women's Christian Association, Mr. Wren was a native of Bedford county, Va.—Huntington Herald-Dispatch.

John Bahan, Sr., Dies  
in Fort Worth, Texas

Word was received in Winchester April 13 of the death of John Bahan at Fort Worth, Texas. He was the retired vice president of the Cumberland Pipe Line Company with offices in Winchester for the last two or three years. He recently retired after more than forty years of service. He is survived by his widow and six children, one of them being John E. Bahan of Fort Worth, Texas, who lived in Louisa a few years ago.

Drowns in Backwater  
at Catlettsburg

The body of Walter Parson Smithers, 8 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smithers, who met death by drowning in the backwaters of the Big Sandy river Sunday afternoon, will be taken to Wythe county, Virginia, for burial.

The drowning of the Smithers boy is the first river tragedy of the present season.

Walter and three companions were playing in a john-boat in the backwaters of the Big Sandy which had inundated the land near his home known as the Park Land Company Addition. The boat was tied to the shore.

While playing Walter tumbled head foremost into the water. His frightened playmates ran for help and three men came to the rescue. After a 25 minute search, the body was recovered.

Medical assistance was at hand and artificial respiration was tried without avail.

The river victim is survived by his parents, three brothers and one sister.—Ashland Independent.

Work Going Along  
in Blaine Oil Field

The Union Gas & Oil Company is going along with its drilling in the Blaine and Kenton fields. Thirty-two strings of tools are running. Some delay in completing wells has occurred lately because the supply of tubing and tanks has been exhausted. The roads are so bad that it is almost impossible to haul this material from the railroad station. However, teams are dragging some of it in.

The Union's property is producing at the rate of 40,000 barrels per month. Five wells are now at the top of the sand, waiting for tubing and tanks.

A well on Joel Kelly's farm flowed 20 barrels in 24 hours.

The Jim Skaggs well No. 7 has come in and is flowing. This is probably the best lease in the field.

P. P. Holbrook well No. 8 is a good one.

Sanford Lyon No. 8 is an average well.

Daniel Skaggs No. 4 is making a good average production.

The J. J. Gambill No. 11 made 188 barrels on April 5, after standing two or three days.

## STILL CAPTURED IN PIKE.

Officers who had captured a large still at Belfrey on Pond creek passed through Louisa Thursday on their way to Pikeville with the still, having come down the N. & W.

## COURT OF APPEALS.

Compton vs. Commonwealth, Pike reversed.

Schoffman vs. Commonwealth Boyd, affirmed.

Sparks, etc., vs. Albin et al. Lawrence, appellant filed motion with notice to advance an affidavit in support of motion. Motion submitted.

Miller Brothers' Company vs. Eikhorn Graded School District, Pike; appellants filed motion with notice to consolidate this appeal with appeal of Mullins, etc., vs. Miller Brothers. Motion submitted.

## NEW POSTMASTERS.

A postmaster is to be appointed at Oil, Lee county. Mrs. Katie Dole was appointed at Leeco, Lee county.

W. J. VANHOOSE  
DIES IN 81ST YEAR

William Jasper Van Hoose died at his home in Fort Gay, W. Va., Wednesday afternoon, the 19th. He had been confined to his bed only two weeks. Asthma and heart trouble caused his death. Up to the time of his last illness he was very active for a man of his years. He was erect and never used a cane. Very frequently he was on the streets of Louisa.

The funeral took place at two-thirty o'clock on Thursday in the M. E. Church and the body was taken to the Bartram cemetery, Fort Gay for burial. Rev. L. D. Bryan conducted the funeral services, in connection with the Odd Fellows lodge of which he had been a member for thirty-one years, having joined at Paintsville April 16, 1891. He was also a member of the Rebecca lodge of Louisa.

Mr. Van Hoose was born at Paintsville, Ky., and spent the greater part of his life there, moving to Fort Gay in February, 1888. He was First Sergeant of Co. C, 45th Ky. Infantry during the Civil war.

On June 16, 1870, Mr. Van Hoose was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Catherine Turner of Paintsville. To them eight children were born, four of which are now living—Mrs. R. F. Frasher, Miss Nellie McClure Van Hoose, Herschel Preston Turner Van Hoose and Chas. C. Van Hoose. The wife and children were at the bedside during his illness.

Mr. Van Hoose was a genial and popular man. He made friends wherever he went. For a time he was in the hotel business in Louisa and there fore was quite well known here.

Surviving are four brothers and one sister, Lacey, Harry, John and Frank Van Hoose and Mrs. Julia Rice.

The following relatives from Paintsville attended the funeral: C. T. Rule and wife, Mrs. Ora Rule Shannon, Mrs. Ralph Williams, Heber Ward and wife, Paul Hager, Tom Estep and Ivan Van Hoose.

HOLD WAR SAVINGS  
STAMPS UNTIL MATURITY

Washington, D. C., April 19.—Owners of the 1918 issue of War Savings Stamps are being advised by Lew Wallace, Jr., Director of the Savings Division of the United States Treasury Department to hold them until their maturity on January 1, 1923 about 8 months hence. In that period they will earn over 13 per cent interest per annum on the average cost price. It was pointed out.

To give some idea of the advantage of holding these 1918 stamps until their maturity date, Director Wallace states that \$1000 worth of stamps, costing \$936 in 1918, are worth \$926 during the current month, but in 8 months they will be redeemed in cash by the government for \$1000, or \$74 more than their present cash value.

## BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Mrs. Jean McDyer entertained a number of friends on Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. E. E. Shannon, in celebration of the birthday anniversary of her mother, Mrs. Jennie Adams. Among the guests were Mrs. O. C. Atkins, Mrs. E. E. McClure and children, Mrs. Billy Riffe and Mrs. D. C. Spencer.

POISON TABLET  
KILLS MRS. STONELawrence County Young  
Woman Takes Bichloride  
by Mistake.

Mrs. Fred Stone, formerly Miss Josephine Fugate of Fallsburg, this county, died in a hospital at Ashland Sunday. The body was brought to the old home place near Fallsburg for burial.

Death was the result of swallowing a bichloride of mercury tablet, which it is said she believed to be an aspirin tablet. This occurred at her home at Mossy Bottom, Pike county, where she had lived most of the time since her marriage about two years ago. She was taken at once to the hospital, but the poison had found its way into the system before medical aid was reached.

She was a handsome and intelligent young woman who was very much liked by her associates. Her mother is Mrs. Arminia Fugate, a widow owning a farm about 7 miles from Louisa. The husband and several brothers and sisters survive also. The father was killed several years ago in a mine or railroad accident.

NEGRO FOUND DEAD  
IN PIKE COUNTY

With nine pistol holes in his body, a negro named Turner was found lying dead near the works of the Victor Coal Co. at Stone, on Pond creek, in Pike county, early Friday morning.

There is yet no clue to the identity of the person or persons who fired the shots which ended his life.

The indications were that he had been dead for some time when the body was discovered by a night watchman at one of the mines in that vicinity on his way home from work.

WOMAN ARRESTED ON  
POSTAL LAW CHARGE

Chloe Kennedy, 23, resident of Mingo-co., was arrested at Glen Alum, W. Va., by Deputy U. S. Marshal Hartley Ferguson on a federal charge of raising postal money orders. She was released Monday on \$1,500 bond pending disposition of her case in Federal court.

The woman is charged with buying money orders from the postoffice at O'Keefe, and with cashing them at Glen Alum after she had raised the amounts. Authorities say she secured more than \$125 in this manner.

## VIRGIL DAVIS DIES IN CEREDO.

Virgil Davis, 23, died at his home in Ceredo Wednesday following an illness of tuberculosis.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Davis, four brothers, Elba Davis, Wayne; Jube Davis, Kenova; Kenny Davis, Echo, and Barney Davis, East Lynn; five sisters, Mrs. George Drainer, East Lynn; Mrs. Spurgeon Huff, and Mrs. Lucian Ferguson, Ceredo; Mrs. Leonard Morrison, and Miss Aggie Davis.

Funeral services were held at the Baptist church, Rev. B. S. Akers officiating. Interment was made at the Crescent cemetery.

## HAS APPENDICITIS.

Mr. George Kouns brought his daughter, Miss Georgia May, from Blaine to Louisa Tuesday and they went on to Ashland that evening. She has appendicitis and it was expected that an operation would be necessary. She was compelled to leave school at Barbourville, W. Va., about the first of February on account of this trouble.

## SLAYER GETS TWO YEARS

Noble Willoughby, formerly of Montgomery county, was found guilty of killing Deb Roney by a jury in the circuit court at Morehead and sentenced to serve two years in the State prison. The killing occurred near Farmers, last July.

ASHLAND POLICEMAN  
SHOOT COAL GROVE MAN

Sergeant John Duty of the Ashland police force shot and seriously injured Cecil Haskins, 50, of Coal Grove Thursday evening at 7:15.

Haskins was riding in a Ford car with Mrs. Duty at the time of the shooting and although he was wounded was able to make his escape.

He made his way to Russell, probably on a freight train and appeared at the Russell Y. M. C. A. at 2 a. m. There the scalp wounds in his head were dressed and said this morning that the wound could hardly prove fatal. Massie did not know where the injured man went after leaving the Y. M. C. A.

Mrs. Haskins arrived from Coal Grove to assist in the attempt at locating her husband. Aside from saying that her husband was 50 years of age and that she did not blame Duty for shooting him she would make no statement.—Ashland Independent.

Engineering Party  
Starting Work on  
Mayo Trail Here

Engineers Piersall, Watt and Bentley, of the State Roads Department, arrived in Louisa Thursday morning to start work on the slight changes in grades on the Mayo Trail from Louisa to Paintsville. This survey is for the purpose of checking up the line and working out the small details. Mr. Bentley will be in charge of the party. Piersall and Watt returned to Frankfort and Ashland afternoon.

## MARRIED AT CATLETTSBURG.

J. W. Boyd, 73, of Catlettsburg, and Mirza C. Borders, 59, of Henrietta, were married in Catlettsburg a few days ago.

## LEND A HAND

The men who are lifting the world upward and onward are those who encourage more than criticize.—Elizabeth Harrison.

Company to Drill 100  
Wells in Johnson

A report says the Eastern Kentucky Oil Company, a Delaware corporation, capitalized at \$2,000,000 with headquarters in Philadelphia and which has extensive holdings in that territory, intends to drill 100 wells in Johnson county, Kentucky, this year according to announcement just made by one of its officials.

This company recently acquired the Rachel Bayes lease adjoining the Dennis Williams farms, on which Wible & Wheeler recently drilled in a big well. The Eastern Kentucky Oil people have under consideration a deal whereby they will take over the holding of the Fairchilds Petroleum Company. The Fairchilds Company's leases are located on Little Paint creek. All of the drilling machines and equipment on the lease are included in the deal, it is stated.

The Eastern Kentucky Company also has acquired the M. L. Frazier lease, which adjoins the Haden Williams tract. Jesse Hare, contractor, has been employed to drill up this entire lease and he has already started No. 1 well on this property, and signed up for drilling five more wells at once.

State Farm Crops  
Tip \$512,459,424

Washington, April 15.—Farm products of the United States in 1919 aggregated \$21,425,623,615 in gross value, and those of Kentucky \$512,459,424, according to figures made public today by the Bureau of the Census.

Kentucky livestock products constituted \$50,928,217 of this total, and the estimated gross value of animals sold and slaughtered in that State was \$96,800,000. Kentucky crops amounted to \$347,328,888; forest products were \$16,606,621 and nursery and greenhouse products \$785,598.

The "gross value of farm products," the bureau explained, corresponds approximately to the gross value of products for a manufacturing industry. The figures contain, however, some duplication on account of the crops fed to livestock and because of the reselling of livestock.

GIRL IN CAR SLAIN  
NEAR ASHLAND

Ashland, Ky., April 14.—Harry Thompson, former convict, 32 years old, was arrested today and charged with the murder of Miss Ethel Durby, 18, who was shot to death last night when she was automobile riding with three others.

The car was fired at as it passed a man on the road.

In the car with Miss Durby were Miss Audrey Young, Ernest Hunt and John Tussey.

The shooting occurred at Meade Station, about four miles from Ashland, near Thompson's garage.

Several shots were fired. One bullet passed through Miss Durby's head and she died instantly. The car returned to Ashland before it was discovered the girl was dead.

Miss Durby's companions said the man was ahead of them and that he got out of his automobile at Meade Station, crossed the road and began firing at them. They said he had asked them to race with him.

Thompson was released from prison several months ago after serving a year for the murder of Jim Stuart. It was said he was drunk at the time of that killing.

At the time of his arrest today he was out on bond under charges of making moonshine whiskey.

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TO HONOR GRANT'S  
BIRTH, APRIL 27

Eyes of the nation will be turned to the little village of Pleasant, Ohio, on April 27th, the birthplace of U. S. Grant, former President and War hero. The day will mark the 100th anniversary. President Harding and other notables will attend.

Oil Operations as Re-  
ported for Eastern Ky.

Barbourville, Ky., April 15.—Eastern Kentucky petroleum operations are now hitting a good stride, and reports of the past week's activity indicate a general increase in field work all the way from the Magoffin, Johnson, Lawrence and other pools of the Big Sandy, through Eastern Kentucky to the Wayne-Cumberland district.

The Magoffin-Lawrence-Johnson field is leading all districts of Eastern Kentucky in amount of new work starting. The Berea sand district of Johnson county reports a number of new wells completed, and what is equally as interesting, the inauguration of service by the new Berea Pipe Line Company, which serves an area in which about 50 producing wells have been drilled. Oil shipped through this line is being marketed to some local refineries, one of which is in operation at Paintsville and another at Catlettsburg.

Late completions in Johnson county show up better in the Keaton Fork district, which extends across the Lawrence line.

In Magoffin county a number of operators from older districts of Kentucky are beginning operations. Among these are Petroleum Exploration Co., Superior Oil Corporation, Hudson & Collins and other big interests from the Lee county field. A new test on Lick Branch, Magoffin county, by Holbrook and others, is good for 10 barrels. This well is ahead of production.

Floyd county operations revealed no new strikes during the week. In this latter pool extensive natural gas developments are in progress on Beaver creek, scene of some big strikes.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

NAVY PLANS TO STORE  
CRUDE OIL RESERVES

Washington, April 14.—A definite government policy of storing the Navy's crude oil reserve in depositories above ground and not depending as heretofore on current production of reserve wells was announced today as the result of a joint investigation by Secretary Edwin L. Denby of the Navy, and Secretary Albert B. Fall of the Interior.

C. R. NASH DIES.

Chas. R. Nash, father of G. A. Nash, formerly a resident of Louisa, died Wednesday morning at a hospital in Ashland after an illness of eight weeks. He spent some time in Louisa while his son lived here.

The burial will take place at Ashland.

Mr. Nash came to Kentucky from New York. He was 76 years of age.

KENTUCKY CLEAN-UP  
APRIL 30 TO MAY 6

Gov. Morrow, acting with the State Board of Health has designated the week of April 30 to May 6 as Kentucky clean-up week.

Let everybody co-operate in this great work. Official reports show that 60 out of every 100 cases of sickness and 43 out of every 100 deaths in Kentucky are due to preventable diseases. Filth and rubbish are largely responsible for all this. Clean up and abolish breeding places for flies, etc.

REV. SUDDITH'S DAUGHTER  
MARRIES IN VIRGINIA

Announcements as follows have been received by Louisa friends of the bride's parents. Rev. Suddith was pastor of the Baptist church in Louisa a number of years ago. While here he was married to Miss Lottie Ferguson, daughter of Judge M. J. Ferguson of this place. They lived in Ashland for some time, afterwards moving to Virginia.

Rev. and Mrs. Louis H. Suddith announce the marriage of their daughter Margaret Morris Laird to Mr. Percy Edgar Walls on Thursday, April the sixth nineteen hundred and twenty-two Lanexa, Virginia.

## OIL CASES DECIDED.

In Circuit Court at Paintsville last Monday Judge Bailey handed down decisions in a number of oil lease cases. He decided the Ferguson, Ham and Wright cases in favor of the plaintiffs, who were suing the Union Gas Company for cancellation.

## EASTERN STAR MEETS.

At the meeting of the Order of Eastern Star on Tuesday evening the following were received into the order: Mrs. Woots W. Caines and Mrs. W. N. Sullivan and daughter, Miss Chattie Sullivan.

BIG SANDY COAL  
MINES RUN FULLStrike is on at Four Mines,  
But Others are Operating.

A large tonnage of coal, amounting to nearly 500 cars per day, is going out of the Big Sandy field at present.

Only four large mines are down. These are Whitehouse, Muddy Branch, Van Lear and Auxier. The miners are out at these places in obedience to the strike call or in sympathy therewith. The union is not recognized at any of these places.

At all other points the mines are going full time, and giving the men plenty to do at good wages. The price of coal has been too low to give operators any profit until the last few days, when it has advanced somewhat.

The coal strike has not yet caused any serious trouble in the fields most affected by it. Both sides seem determined to fight it out, if it takes all summer.

Coal Rates Lowered  
by C. & O. Railway

Washington, April 5.—The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad was authorized today by the Interstate Commerce Commission to reduce rates on coal from West Virginia to Eastern Kentucky points to St. Louis in accordance with schedules proposed by the carrier last December. The new rate will be \$3.47 from Kanawha districts in West Virginia and Eastern Kentucky, as against a previous rate of \$4.13 and from the New River district of West Virginia \$3.62 compared with a previous rate of \$4.25.

## UNSIGNED CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters for publication in the NEWS must bear the signature of the writer. "Lonesome Kid" of Hicksville, "Buster Bill" of Whitehouse and a Lick creek letter were among those not signed this week.

JIM BARKER GETS  
LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Grayson, Ky., April 14.—Jim Barker, charged with the killing of Danny Sparks in Elliott county last June when Sparks, his sister, his aged father and brother were slain by alleged moonshiners as the Sparks family was returning from church, was found guilty in the Circuit Court today and sentenced to life imprisonment in the State penitentiary.

Richard Sparks recently was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Mary Sparks, Danny Sparks 14-year-old sister, who threw herself in front of her brother and stopped a bullet meant for him.

Wesley Sparks, a third member of the party which did the killing, is to be tried here in September.

The slayers and their friends created a reign of terror in this county following the murders. Witnesses were intimidated and some of them left the county under threats.

Some families moved away leaving their crops and livestock in the fields. The murders were the result of information given to the grand jury by Danny Sparks.

He and the slayers are said to have been partners in a moonshine still until he became converted at a revival meeting, after which he informed against his former associates. The moonshiners were convicted and fined, after which they sought revenge.

The case of Richard Sparks, age 20, for killing Danny Sparks, was transferred to Lawrence county and tried last September.

Napier to Oppose  
Langley For Congress

Developments in the Republican Congressional situation in the Tenth district, this week were the withdrawal of Edward L. Allen, Prestonsburg, and the decision of the anti-Langley forces to unite upon Calloway W. Napier, Hazard, to oppose the renomination of the present Congressman in the August primary. Mr. Napier, who last November was elected Commonwealth's Attorney of the Thirty-third judicial district, accepted the action of the conference and will enter at once upon an active campaign to solidify the anti-Langley sentiment. Already it is apparent that Congressman Langley is up against the hardest fight of his life, and the campaign is expected to take a spectacular turn.—Louisville Times.

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